~~(Attorney Docket Nos. 10523US01 and DN37882YC)~~ which is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 07/970,411, filed November 2, 1992 by Meier et al. ~~(Attorney Docket Nos. 92P767 and DN37882YB)~~ which is a continuation in part of U.S. Serial No. 07/968,990, filed October 30, 1992 ~~(Attorney Docket Nos. 92P758 and DN37882YA)~~, which is itself a continuation in part of a pending application of Meier et al., U.S. Serial No. 07/769,425, filed October 1, 1991 ~~(Attorney Docket Nos. 91P668 and DN37882)~~. The pending application U.S. Serial No. 07/968,990 is also a continuation in part of pending PCT application of Mahany et al., Serial No. PCT/US92/08610, filed October 1, 1992 ~~(Attorney Docket Nos. 92P661 and DN37882Y9)~~.

The entire disclosures of each of these applications including the drawings and appendices are incorporated herein.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 through 14 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

15. A communication network supporting wireless communication of messages, said communication network comprising:

a first terminal node having a wireless receiver operable in a normal state;

a second terminal node having a wireless receiver operable in a power saving state;

an access point that attempts to immediately deliver messages destined for the first terminal node;

the access point attempts to deliver messages destined for the second terminal node by transmitting at predetermined intervals beacons that identify that a message awaits delivery;

the second terminal node synchronizes operation of its wireless receiver to receive the beacons from the access point; and

the second terminal node determines from the received beacons that it has a message awaiting delivery and directs further operation of its wireless receiver to receive the message.—

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16. The communication network of claim 15 wherein the first terminal node selectively operates in one of the normal mode and a power saving state and while operating in the power saving state the first terminal node synchronizes operation of its wireless receiver to receive the beacons from the access point.

17. The communication network of claim 15 wherein the second terminal node directs further operation of its receiver to receive the message during a time period that follows one of the received beacons.

18. The communication network of claim 17 wherein the time period immediately follows the one of the received beacons.

19. The communication network of claim 17 wherein the time period follows the one of the received beacons during an awake time window.

20. The communication network of claim 19 wherein the awake time window occurs an offset time following the one of the received beacons.

21. The communication network of claim 17 wherein the second terminal node has a wireless transmitter that is used to request the message awaiting delivery.

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22. The communication network of claim 19 wherein the second terminal node has a wireless transmitter that is used to request that the message awaiting delivery be delivered during the awake time window.

23. The communication network of claim 20 wherein the second terminal node has a wireless transmitter that is used to request that the message awaiting delivery be delivered during the awake time window at the offset time, wherein the awake time window and the offset time are communicated with the request.

24. The communication network of claim 15 wherein the second terminal node communicates to the access point an indication of whether the second terminal node operates in the power saving state.

25. The communication network of claim 17 wherein the access point queues the messages awaiting delivery, and removes from the queue those of the messages awaiting delivery where delivery is unsuccessful.

--26. The communication network of claim 25 wherein the messages awaiting delivery remain in the queue until delivery is successful or until a predetermined number of the beacons occur wherein delivery is unsuccessful.--

--27. The communication network of claim 17 wherein the second terminal node synchronizes operation of its wireless receiver to receive the beacons from the access point even when one or more of the beacons from the access point have not been received.--

--28. The communication network of claim 13 wherein the second terminal node comprises a battery-powered, roaming device.--

--29. The communication network of claim 28 wherein the access point participates in spanning tree routing to support the battery-powered, roaming device.—

--30. A communication network supporting wireless communication of messages, said communication network comprising:

a first terminal node operating in a first state;

a second terminal node operating in a second state in which attempts are made to minimize power consumption by the wireless receiver

a bridging node having a wireless transceiver to support wireless communication to the first and second terminal nodes;

the bridging node attempts to deliver messages destined for the second terminal node by transmitting at predetermined intervals beacons that identify a message awaiting delivery;

the second terminal node synchronizing operation of its wireless receiver to receive the beacons from the bridging node and determining from the received beacons that it has a message awaiting delivery and responding to an awaiting message by directing further operation of its wireless receiver to receive the message; and

the bridging node delivering messages to the first terminal node without requiring the first terminal node to determine from the beacons that it has messages awaiting delivery.

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17 16
31. The communication network of claim 30 wherein the second terminal node directs further operation of its receiver to receive the message during a time period that follows one of the received beacons.

18 17
32. The communication network of claim 31 wherein the time period immediately follows the one of the received beacons.

19 17
33. The communication network of claim 31 wherein the time period follows the one of the received beacons during an awake time window.

34. The communication network of claim 34 wherein the awake time window occurs an offset time following the one of the received beacons.

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